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ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE
HEALTHINESS OF THE CITIZENS
AND ON THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE

CITY & COUNTY OF NORWICH

FOR THE YEAR

1920,

BY

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

NORWICH:

Gibbs & Waller, Ltd., Lithographers and Account Book Manufacturers Colegate Street

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„ „ W. B. GREENFIELD, J.P.	

Maternity & Child Welfare Committee.

The same as above, with the addition of Mrs. CLIFTON and
Mrs. MOTTRAM.

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PREFACE.

MY LORD MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I submit as your Medical Officer of Health my Annual Report for the year 1920. In a new Memorandum (Memo 40/Int.) the Ministry of Health again has issued to Medical Officers of Health certain suggestions and regulations as to the methods of compilation to be followed, and the materials to be used, in composing an Annual Report; and although neither the headings nor the order in which they are placed are what I should adopt myself, still, in the body of this Report I have, as far as practicable, endeavoured to comply with these suggestions and requisitions under their specified headings: but I intend to adhere to the practice, I have followed in previous years, of giving a general summary of, and introduction; and to leave the enquirer after special information to pursue his own investigation, aided by the index I have provided, of the subject matter presented. I shall be well satisfied if the average citizen not only will read, but also mentally will digest this Preface.

The *birth-rate* for the year (1920), 25·6 per thousand of the population, *at all ages*, was comfortingly in advance of that for 1919 (16·35); but below the averaged birth-rate for the 96 great towns, viz., 26·2 per 1000. A satisfactory additional saving of infant life too, as compared with 1919, took place, *the infantile mortality rate*, 74 per 1000 births, being 12 per 1000 births below that for 1919; of the children born there again was a majority of males (162), in 1919 this majority was 79; 165 of the infants born were known to be illegitimate—3 less than in 1919. The mortality rate of these illegitimate infants was, as is usual, much higher than that for those born in lawful wedlock. The infantile mortality rate for the illegitimate being 133 per 1000 births, the corresponding rate for the legitimate infants being 71 per 1000 births. In other words, the chances of surviving for one year, for the illegitimate were roughly about half as good as those of the legitimate. And these chances would have been lessened but for the efforts made by the Health Visitors and some voluntary workers. The conditions have improved as compared with 1919, but there

remains a disquieting, and I think, a largely preventible leakage of life. Care for these infants needs to be supplemented by care for the mothers if we are to make our efforts successful in checking and controlling this leakage of life. Something we have effected through the Milk Order, and the Guild for Friendless Mothers, of which Mrs. Whitty, of 17, The Crescent, is the Honorary Almoner, again has been very helpful. (I commend this Guild warmly for pecuniary support to all my readers: its methods are humane and its aims inspiring).

The *gross recorded death-rate*, 12·47 per 1000 of the population at all ages, is practically the same as that for the 96 great towns, viz., 12·5. The “corrected” death-rate works out at 11·5 and the comparative mortality figure at 927—taking 1000 as the corresponding figure for England and Wales as a whole. The *zymotic death-rate*, 0·64 per 1000, is fractionally higher than that for the 96 great towns, taken collectively, viz., 0·57; on the other hand the special death-rate for *diarrhoeal diseases up to 2 years of age*, 8·4 per 1000 *births*, is lower than the averaged rate for the 96 great towns, viz., 10·4 per 1000 *births*.

Maternity and Child Welfare Work. Despite continued uncertainty as to our final settlement I have again to record success at our Maternity Institution, and more markedly with our Infant Welfare Clinics—held at present in the out-patient department of the Jenny Lind Infirmary. The numbers attending these Clinics repeatedly have proved embarrassing; and will necessitate our moving to more commodious premises. We are approaching, I hope, but are not yet within reach of a satisfactory solution of our difficulties—inclusive of the prospective establishment, in the dim, but I trust not distant, future, of a model Maternity Hospital on the outskirts of the City. As respects the Infant Clinics my own preference is for the erection in the forecourt to the Maternity Institution in Pottergate Street of specially designed rooms; there is adequate space, and in situation it virtually is *the geographical centre of the City*. When we have a new Maternity Hospital we-

shall remove our beds to it from Pottergate Street, which will remain the residence for our "district" midwives. Of the character of the accommodation needed efficiently to cope with our Infant Welfare work some idea will be formed when I state in 1920 the average number of infants brought to each of our 148 Clinics was 72, that the total attendances numbered over 10,000, and that over 1200 new babies were brought during the year. A record of which the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee very properly may be proud—when the disadvantageous conditions under which the Clinics have to be conducted are taken into account.

Notification of Births Act. Under its provisions I received notification of 77 per cent. of the births that took place in the City last year. I do not concern myself greatly over a birth not being notified *when a doctor is present at it*. Notification in these circumstances is rather a matter for the consciences of the doctor and the parent; is dependent upon their personal apprehension of the obligations of the decent citizenship of ready compliance with the law of the land, than a matter of pressing need. I do not therefore advise prosecution for non-notification under such circumstances; a patient, if improvident philosopher, I prefer to rely upon the orderly progression of more enlightened conceptions of civic duty, and am encouraged to find the practice of notification being more generally followed by the younger doctors. In the case of births taking place *when no doctor is present* I have the house visited by the Inspector of Midwives, and should the mother be in need of it, provide milk free, or at lessened cost; and *when the midwife has ceased attendance*, direct the Health Visitor for the district to maintain a tactful visitation and oversight of the child up to the age of five—when it passes into the charge of the Education Committee. The Health Visitor represents the interest which the whole community takes in the welfare of these, the most helpless of its members, and this interest, *exhibited with discretion*, is of real value to the well-meaning, but often ill-informed parent, and is also efficacious as a restraint upon, and for the reproof and the admonition of the indifferent and the indolent. Burke's words,

in this connection, merit a renewed quotation, viz., that we represent "a partnership between those who are living and those who are dead, and those who are yet to be born," and by remembering this to avoid in the present, the mistakes of the past, and so to pave the way to a more provident future. The Health Visitors (who also act as School Nurses) paid 21,492 visits and re-visits to houses—3316 of them in connection with Medical Inspections in the Schools. They found in the dwellings visited 2529 sick persons. At their suggestion 98 houses and 317 persons were cleaned; 4 of the latter (school children) compulsorily. Of 2724 newly-born infants visited by them, 2314 were being fed from the breast; 212 from breast *and* bottle; and 198 from a bottle. 475 of the infants were ailing at the time of the first visit, or, roughly, 1 in 6—a higher proportion than prevailed in 1919. Altogether 8695 visits were paid to infants. 2390 of the mothers were reported to be "healthy;" 240 "delicate," and 94 "badly nourished," and for these latter, as far as practicable, aid was obtained. In 491 instances the Health Visitors got bad methods in feeding changed. 36 still-births were notified and specially reported upon; and there were 23 sets of twins—2 more than in the previous year. 730 infants were, for varying periods, fed with dried milk—these infants being brought to the welfare clinics once a fortnight, and the general condition, weight, etc., noted. The results of this feeding with dried milk, on the whole, have been satisfactory—in some instances quite remarkably so. 14·6 per cent. of the dwellings visited by the Health Visitors possessed only one bedroom, and this had an averaged population of 2·9 persons; 37·0 per cent. had two bedrooms with an averaged population of 2·4 persons per room; 42·6 per cent. had 3 bedrooms with 1·9 persons per room; 5·5 per cent. had 4 bedrooms with 1·4 persons per room; and 0·3 per cent. had more than 4 bedrooms with 1·1 persons per room.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order. During the year 16,553 pints of milk were ordered, 9414 pints for nursing and

expectant mothers, and 7139 for children under 5 years of age. 4960 pints were distributed at half cost—2306 for nursing and expectant mothers, and 2654 for children; the remainder was given free of cost. The practice I have followed in distributing milk has been when a recommendation is received—whether from an outside practitioner, midwife, or other person, or from the doctors attached to the Ante-natal and Infant Welfare Clinics, or from the Matron of the Maternity Institute or a Health Visitor, is to have particulars furnished of the size of the family, the amount of the income, rent, etc. With the approval of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee I adopted, *after deducting the rent*, as a standard justifying the supplying milk at less than cost, or free of cost—an income of less than 10/- per head per week for every member of the family; and believe that this has worked out very fairly. In the latter part of the year I applied the same standard in dealing with applications for the supply of dried milk, having found instances of people obtaining milk whose circumstances did not warrant the accordance of the privilege. I believe that we are subject now to little imposition, and that little certainly not for long; as in cases where there is reason to doubt the accuracy of the information supplied I make confidential enquiries from employers as to the wages, etc., received, and almost invariably am favoured with prompt and courteous responses. When my Department moves to Churchman House it will be possible to make control of the storage and the distribution of this dried milk more effective still; and confidently to anticipate the complete elimination of the undeserving. 15,062 packets of dried milk were distributed during the year—4837 free and the remainder paid for wholly or in part. It will be realised that the investigation and signing of these orders takes time. To mitigate the effects of the unemployment in the City in the latter part of the year the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee desired me to administer the Milk Order with considerate generosity; and there is no doubt at all that the milk supplied helped to tide many mothers and children over that portion of an anxious period.

434 midwifery cases were attended from the Maternity Institution; medical help was called in 56; 1 patient died. There were 6 sets of twins, 7 stillbirths, and 3 babies died. In the ward 30 patients were treated: 3 died; 15 babies were born alive. At the Ante-natal Clinics 252 attended. 6 pupils passed their examination; 4 failed. The Committee has decided to give preference to pupils who already have had some hospital training. All the patients are visited at least once prior to the confinement, and for 10 days afterwards. Fees charged—for first cases, 21/- and others 17/6, are the lowest in the City; for ward cases, £2 2s. 0d. to £3 3s. 0d. per week. (In special cases the Committee remits fees wholly or in part.)

School Medical Work. 10,286 children were inspected and 1034 re-inspected *in the Schools*. These 10,286 were made up of 2512 entrants, 4671 juniors, and 3103 leavers. In addition to the foregoing there were 627 special examinations. The Medical Inspectors found defects in 1959, or nearly 19 per cent. of the children examined in the Schools; and of these 1292 (12·5 per cent. of the total) were deemed to be sufficiently serious to need medical treatment. The remainder needed to be kept under observation by the School nurses. The principal defects found at these inspections were of nose and throat 484, vision 612, external eye diseases 77, hearing 41, ear diseases 72, skin 164, lungs non-tuberculous 115, tuberculous non-pulmonary 16, nervous system 18, malnutritional 197. Children also are sent by Health Visitors, Teachers, Attendance Officers, etc., to Clinics held at the Municipal Offices on three afternoons in the week. Out of 2957 defects found in children either in the Schools or at the office clinics 2438, or 82 per cent. were remedied; and more would have been but for the attitude assumed by some of the parents; and advice in favour of delay given by private doctors, *re* Tonsils and Adenoids in particular. 31 candidates for bursaries were specially examined.

Tuberculous Diseases. The total number of notifications of these diseases amounted only to 152 (in 1919 it was 219). 127 of

Tuberculosis of the Lungs (Phthisis) and 25 of other forms—in 1919 these figures were 140 and 79 respectively. 1558 visits were paid by Officers of the Public Health Department to the homes of the Tuberculous. 61 per cent. of last years (notified) victims were males, 39 per cent. females (in 1919 these proportions were 55 and 45 per cent.) 34 per cent were married folk, 63 per cent. single, and 3 per cent. widows or widowers. 18·4 per cent. were under 15 years of age, 32·9 per cent. 15 and under 25, 31·6 per cent. 25 and under 45, and 17·1 per cent. 45 years of age and over. Information obtained from 125 of the cases revealed evidence of family taint in 35 per cent; 33 per cent. were following their customary employment, 40 per cent. were not following employment, 9 per cent. were housewives, 12 per cent. were school children, and 6 per cent. children below school age. At the time of the first visit 42 *per cent. had a separate bedroom* (an improvement on the 1919 figures, viz., 32 per cent.), 12 per cent. *a separate bed in a double-bedded room*, but no less than 46 per cent. *shared a bed with another* (and presumably a non-tuberculous person). 55 per cent. of the notified cases were insured and 30 per cent. dependants of insured persons. The deaths from Phthisis numbered 125, and from other tuberculous diseases 38. Judging from the special death-rate for the last twenty years, one is entitled to affirm that tuberculosis is a steadily declining disease amongst us, *e.g.*, in the year 1900, with a population of 110,000, there were 144 deaths from Phthisis; in 1910 with a population of 120,500, there were 133; and in 1920, with an estimated population of 125,000, there were 125. (The deaths from other forms of tuberculous disease have diminished more markedly, the figures being: in 1900, 98 deaths; in 1910, 72 deaths; and in 1920, 38 deaths). In other words, if the deaths' rate, etc., proportionately to population, had remained at the 1900 figure, the number of deaths from Phthisis last year would have been 164. The conjoint Scheme entered into by the City with the County of Norfolk and the Borough of Great Yarmouth for the treatment (and training) of the tuberculous at Stanninghall is getting some way on it, 12 Norwich men being in residence there at the end of the year. The consulting and waiting rooms at Churchman House

should be in use by our Tuberculosis Officer by midsummer in the present year, and we continue in use a pavilion for women at the Isolation Hospital.

Infectious Diseases. There was more of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Puerperal Fever, Enteric Fever, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Encephalitis Lethargica in 1920 than in 1919; and less of Cerebro-Spinal Fever, Measles, Malaria, Dysentery, Pneumonia, Trench Fever, and Erysipelas.

Venereal Diseases. The situation in Norwich is not satisfactory. The attendance of new cases at the Clinics has not increased; but so far as I can judge there has not been any decrease in disease—judging from the notifications of Ophthalmia Neonatorum there has been some increase. To one whose training and professional bias is all in favour of prevention the practical limitation of effort to instruction *re* danger, moral suasion, and the provision of treatment, is not satisfactory. Yet to deal with this matter effectively one has to incur the possibility, and certainly the imputation, of contributing to promiscuity; and one cannot, and certainly I do not wonder that Health Committees, representing as they do varying mental attitudes, feel impelled very carefully to feel their way. I am satisfied that instruction, as to danger, and moral exhortations, materially will not affect, for the existing generation, any satisfactory result—human nature being what it is, and the sexual remaining one of its most powerful impulses; but that instruction plus training of the faculty of *self-control from early life, will*; and a man of from 20 to 30 will be able to control the sexual, because from childhood he has been trained and taught to control his selfish (non-sexual) impulses—in short has learned to exercise, and by exercising, to strengthen self-control. It will be a long up-hill fight, and for the welfare of the race I am satisfied that it will have to be fought. But here and now it is the folk who have never been made to practice self-control in non-sexual impulses who naturally are incapable of controlling the sexual, and are to be pitied, even while they are dreaded; and whose up-

bringers are yet more to be blamed. And in fairness something must be attributed to the ineluctible Intelligence which animates "this universall Frame"—for as Bacon puts it—"I had rather believe all the Fables in the Legend, and the Talmud, and the Alcoran than that this universall Frame is without a Minde"—when we find human beings possessed by instinctive impulses of such imperiousness that in all known ages men and women have been found to risk even their existence for the satisfaction of them.

Isolation Hospital. 619 patients were admitted during the year, and this number, with 56 patients who already were inmates on the 1st of January, makes a total of 675 treated. The death-rate from all diseases was just over $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The average daily number of patients was 53 (maximum 92, minimum 32).

Housing. The scarcity of houses persists, 48 only having been erected in 1920. The Council's Scheme provides for the erection of a total number of 1200; and that figure hardly will keep pace with the natural increase in population, leaving the real shortage pretty much in *statu quo*. The occupation of numbers of unsatisfactory dwellings has therefore still to be tolerated; and with this yet more unsatisfactory conditions of relative overcrowding.

The Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector summarizes the sanitary work carried out during the year, and states what has been done to maintain a satisfactory condition and to improve the general sanitation of factories and workshops, dairies, cowsheds, milkshops, and common lodging-houses, etc. It also enumerates the results of analyses of samples of foods and drugs and of prosecutions for adulteration thereof; and the amounts and sorts of food which have been destroyed as being unfit for human consumption.

Drs. Goldie and Ruddock-West obtained more important appointments, and left the service of the Corporation; Dr. Theodore Fisher was appointed Tuberculosis Officer; and Dr. Leggat

(Resident Medical Officer at Isolation Hospital) and Dr. G. W. Riddel and Dr. R. W. Revell joined the Public Health Department, the two latter primarily as School Medical Inspectors. I am indebted for very helpful service from all these officers. Prior to the arrival of Dr. Leggat, to tide over a temporary period of difficulty, Dr. Janet Mouat consented to return to take charge, as Resident Medical Officer, of the Isolation Hospital, for three months, adding thereby greatly to the indebtedness of the Health Committee and myself for her very able and highly valued services. I am happy in being able to record ready and willing services from the entire Staff of the Public Health Department.

(Signed)

H. COOPER PATTIN.

May 15th (The Ides), 1921.

P.S.—I have pleasure in stating that the deaths from Malignant Growths (Cancer, etc.) again declined, the numbers being 135 in 1920, 168 in 1919, and 181 in 1918.

ANNUAL REPORT

*Compiled in the order set out by the Ministry of Health's
Memo. 40/Int., superseding Memo. 9/Med.*

“NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.”

- (1) Population (Census 1911), 121,478.
 „ estimated 1920, 125,700.
 Area in Statute Acres, 7923.

(2) *Physical Features and General Character of the District.**

The geological construction of the soil underlying the City is simple in character. The higher levels are made up of glacial beds, through which the valleys have been excavated; exposing at their margins the crag formation and chalk; gravel and alluvial deposits occupying the lower ground. The chalk, which is nearly 1200 feet in depth and underlies practically the whole City, comes to the surface in the Market Place, and in other parts at a similar level, and may be reached at no great depth in all parts. The order of the succession of the glacial and crag beds is shewn in excavations on the sides of the high ground surmounted by Mousehold Heath, between which Heath (immortalized in paint by Old Crome and in prose by Borrow), and the main portion of the City winds the Wensum on its staidly way to join, at the outskirts of the City, the Yare. Except for some layers of peat in the valley and a bed of brick earth over part of the higher ground (*e.g.*, near the Victoria Station), the soil of the City is of a porous character, and much percolation of fluid takes place. The surface of the City has an undulating character, with some low lying sections, and the general trend of the drainage of the greater portion of the inhabited area is toward the Wensum.

* Compiled from information contributed by Mr. F. W. Harmer, F.G.S.

(3) "*Social Conditions.*" These are not easy to depict: part of the charm of the City, as a place of residence, depends upon its historical associations and venerable antiquity; part upon its position and winsome surroundings; part upon its clear atmosphere and its relatively dry and bracing climate; and part upon its urbane, good looking (due largely to past racial admixture) and cheerful inhabitants; and, in association with the foregoing allurements, mention may be adventured that, from Evelyn's days, Norwich has been known as the "City of Gardens." The chief occupations of such of its inhabitants as have to labour for their livelihood (and Norwich is a place in which it is easier *to live a life* than to make a livelihood—wise men proverbially are found in the East, and it has been shewn statistically that, proportionally with population, more brain power has been produced in East Anglia, where people have time to, and do think, than in any other portion of the Kingdom); the chief occupations are boot making, mustard and starch manufacture, brewing beer, galvanizing iron wire, motor engine, aeroplane and bungalow construction; cocoa, chocolate, biscuit and aërated water production; banking, life, fire and accident assurance and insurance; teaching and preaching. The boot making industry contributed 12·0 per cent. of the phthisical cases notified in the year.

(4) *Vital Statistics.* The birth-rate for 1920 was 25·6 per 1000, that for the 96 great towns being 26·2. The gross recorded death-rate was 12·47 per 1000. There was a male majority amongst the newly-born of 162; 165 of the total births were those of children known to be illegitimate; the infantile mortality rate for these being 133 per 1000 births, whereas the corresponding rate for those born legitimate was only 71 per 1000 births. The Zymotic death-rate was 0·6 per 1000. The special death-rate for Diarrhœal diseases up to 2 years of age was 8·4 per 1000 births. The comparative mortality figure works out at 927, taking 1000 as that for the country as a whole. 77 per cent. of the births were notified; of 2724 newly born infants visited, 475 were found to be ailing; 2390 of the mothers "healthy," 240 "healthy but delicate,"

and 94 "badly nourished." There were 36 still-births (each specially reported on); 23 sets of twins.

(5) "*The amount of Poor Law relief.*" The total expenditure, with salaries and establishment charges and other expenses, was £137,505. Outdoor relief, including salaries and allowances, inclusive of £2300 for children boarded out, amounted to £29,590. The greatest number of persons obtaining indoor relief (including children) on any one day was 789, and the lowest 667.

(6) "*The extent to which hospital and other forms of gratuitous medical relief are utilized.*" The Norfolk and Norwich Hospital contains some 300 beds, 240 for civilians, and some 60 reserved for discharged disabled sailors and soldiers. The beds for civilians truthfully may be said to be fully occupied; there commonly is a waiting list of applicants for any vacancy. Usually civilian beds are occupied by city patients to rather over 50 per cent., the remainder coming chiefly from the county of Norfolk and a few from Suffolk. The out-patient department also has been fully utilized—no less than 2231 new patients having applied for treatment (charges are now made). There also were 7546 accidents, casualties and dental cases, and 521 V.D. cases. The Jenny Lind Infirmary for Sick Children has 60 beds, of which roughly two thirds are filled by Norwich, the remainder by Norfolk patients; 871 patients were admitted in 1920 (average number of beds occupied 55). It maintains in daily service an out-patient department in Pottergate Street, which is very generally made use of, 2745 new patients and 13,385 attendances in 1920. The Eye Infirmary possesses 15 beds which are fully utilized, 262 patients being treated during the year, in fact there is always a waiting list. It also provides an Out-patient Department which affords and renders valuable service to the community (2680 new in-and-out-patients treated in 1920). The Guardians maintain a well-equipped Hospital in their Bowthorpe Infirmary (nearly 400 beds). The average number of beds occupied daily in 1920 was 262, Mental Wards 91, Nursery 21, Mentally Defective 14. There were

approximately 1000 admissions to the Infirmary Wards. The Maternity Department dealt with 22 cases, of which roughly one-third were victims of V.D. The Guardians treat a very considerable number of Tuberculous patients; of non-pulmonary the weekly average was 28, and of pulmonary (Phthisis) 24, the latter largely in revolving shelters; but usually they do not get these cases in the earlier stages. There is still a disinclination, which is a diminishing one, I think, to accept treatment in a Poor Law Institution; but the foregoing figures testify to the use made of this Infirmary. There is a Cavell Nurses Home from which much district nursing is furnished in the homes of the ailing; and the Sick Poor Society and the Invalid Children's Aid Association provide medical appliances for deserving cases.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

(1) *Water.* The supply to the City has been from the Waterworks Company, and will pass into the control of the Council on March 25th of the current year. It is constant, adequate in amount, and of good and fairly uniform quality throughout the year. The source of the supply is the river Wensum; which is reasonably free, and is, and has been carefully preserved from pollution by the Water Company; the water is subjected to sedimentation, aeration, and efficient sand filtration. Daily quantitative and qualitative analyses, and monthly bacteriological examinations are made, and the results recorded. There has been no evidence of contamination by lead. A few dwellings in outlying portions of the City draw water from wells.

(2) *Rivers and Streams.* Below the Waterworks' intake—at Heigham—the Wensum meanders through the City to join the Yare at Trowse. It is subjected to surface pollution and to the influx of waste water. On its banks are some breweries, the gasworks, starch mills, etc.; but the pollution is not palpably of a gross character.

(3) *Drainage and Sewerage.* The City Engineer reports: "The sewerage of the City of Norwich is generally sufficient and

efficient for the whole of the reasonable requirements of the City, except as regards the Earlham Road district including Earlham Rise; and for this area sewerage is being constructed; its completion will enable a large number of houses to abandon cesspools."

(4) *Closet Accommodation.* See Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report (p. 49).

(5) *Scavenging* ditto ditto (p. 49).

(6) *Sanitary Inspection of District* ditto ditto (p. 40).

(7) *Premises and occupations controlled by Bye-laws* ditto (p. 46).

(8) *Schools.* Ordinary reparations only effected. Sanitary condition and water supply good in modern Schools. Tolerable but not first class in some of the older ones. Permanent disuse of one School is advised. 12 Infant Schools, or of Infants' departments of Schools closed temporarily—10 for outbreaks of Measles, 1 for Chicken Pox and 1 for Whooping Cough. In dealing with infectious diseases—exclusion for defined periods of members of the affected household is required—unless the scholars already have had the disease—and in the case of Diphtheria, swabbing of contacts and sometimes of classes. (A copy of my Report as S.M.O forwarded).

FOOD.

(a) *Milk supply.* On whole adequate and quality good and well maintained. The number of prosecutions and the penalties inflicted for faulty milk are given on p. 45. No evidence was found of tuberculous cattle being milked—nor were tubercle bacilli found in milk examined (bacteriologically).

(1) *Milk and Cream Regulations.* See Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report (p. 48.)

(2) *Milk (Mothers and Children) Order.* Owing to the spread of unemployment in the latter portion of the year, many claims were made, and much time taken up in investigating the legitimacy of them; 16,553 pints of milk were ordered. 9,414 for nursing and

expectant mothers, and 7,139 for children; 11,593 were given free and 4,960 at half cost. (We also distributed 15,062 packets of dried milk 4,837 of them free—the remainder being paid for wholly in some cases but in the main at half cost).

(b) *Meat.* (i.) Particulars of meat inspection, disease in meat and condition of slaughterhouses, are given in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report, p. 47. (ii.) There is no Public Abattoir I regret to say. (iii.) No condemnation by magistrate needed last year. (iv.) 16 carcasses of beef were condemned as being tuberculous see p. 43.

The number of slaughter houses in use in the district was—

	In 1914.	In January 1920.	In December 1920..
Registered	19	13	13
Licensed	20	21	18
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	39	34	31
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

(c) *Other Foods.* See Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report p. 43.

(d) *Food poisoning.* No case recorded.

(e) *Sale of Food and Drugs Act.* Action taken see p. 44 for Report on.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

(a) *Infectious Diseases generally.* The year presents no particularly notable features; there was no special epidemic. The total number of notifications was 932, 190 less than in 1919—taking increase in population into account the real reduction proportionally was more than the figures represent. There was more of Diphtheria (11), Scarlet Fever (32), Puerperal Fever (5), Enteric Fever (4), Ophthalmia Neonatorum (3), Encephalitis Lethargica (5), and Anthrax (1) than in 1919, and less of Cerebro-Spinal Fever (6), Measles (37), Malaria (82), Dysentery (8), Trench Fever (1), Erysipelas (2), and Pneumonia (118)

(b) *Influenza*. This declined greatly as compared with 1919, and cannot be said ever to have been epidemic. There were 17 deaths registered from it—11 in the first quarter.

(c) *Measles* had a certain limited but not seriously epidemic prevalence—191 cases were notified (voluntarily). There were 38 deaths—9 under 1 year of age. 10 Infant Schools or Infants' departments of Schools were closed temporarily on account of it.

(d) *Diphtheria* was rather more prevalent but of milder type than in 1919 (348 cases as compared with 337). There were 12 deaths (in 1919, 22). One of the deaths took place in the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. Over 3500 "swabs" from contacts, etc., were examined. The disease again spread through contact with *unrecognised* cases, parents and others often being surprisingly inattentive to the earlier indications, a "cold" frequently being deemed to be all that is the matter. Naturally unrecognised nasal cases relatively did most mischief. In all cases I arrange for the early removal of the patient, and for the swabbing of "contacts," and re-supply anti-toxin that may have been used. It was not necessary to close any school on account of this disease; albeit 69 per cent. of the cases occurred in children below or not more than 15 years of age. The 348 cases notified to me occurred in 320 dwellings, there being 28 instances of more than one case occurring in the same dwelling. 23 cases were notified from Institutions; 55 per cent. of those attacked were females. Systematic enquiries into the home surroundings enable me to state that 4 per cent. of the houses affected contained *only one* bedroom, the occupants (averaged) numbering 3.5; 30 per cent. of the houses possessed two bedrooms; occupants 2.75; 53 per cent. three bedrooms; and 13 per cent. four or more bedrooms. 95 per cent. of the dwellings used W.C.'s, and in 25 per cent. there was evidence of dampness due commonly to the absence of "a damp course."

(e) *Scarlet Fever*. There were 162 cases with 2 deaths (in 1919 there were 130 cases and 1 death). These 162 occurred in 149 dwellings; there being 13 secondary infections, *i.e.*, cases due

to infection from the first. 145 cases were treated in the Isolation Hospital, and of these 2 were "return" cases. 51 per cent. of the cases were females, and over 79 per cent. were children under 15.

(f) *Enteric* (Typhoid) Fever. 22 cases were notified, and there were 4 deaths (in 1919 there were 18 cases and 1 death). 68 per cent. were females. 23 per cent. under 15. 23 per cent. clearly recalled partaking of shell fish prior to the attack. 27 per cent. of the affected dwellings possessed 2 bedrooms, with an averaged population of 2·9 per room: 55 per cent. had 3 bedrooms, and 18 per cent. 4 or more bedrooms. Crowding in at least 70 per cent. of the dwellings cannot be said to have occurred. All the cases occurred in households which obtained their water from the Company's mains. 9 per cent. of the cases drank uncooked milk, 86 per cent. used milk only in tea, etc., or after it had been cooked in puddings, etc. 5 per cent. used condensed milk. In 86 per cent. of the affected dwellings the drainage was reported to be "good." 18 per cent. of the affected dwellings stored food in a ventilated receptacle (*i.e.*, in a receptacle having direct communication with the external air), and in no less than 64 per cent. of the houses the food was stored in an unventilated receptacle in the actual living room; and the remainder stored the food in an unventilated receptacle in a room other than the living room. 55 per cent. of the affected dwellings were within 20 yards of a sewer grating or gulley. The occupations of the victims were (excluding 5 school children) 3 boot workers, 4 housewives, 1 clerk, 1 carpenter, 1 barmaid, 1 labourer, 1 licensed victualler, 1 fruiterer, 1 shunter, 1 signalman, and 1 wardmaid.

(g) *Puerperal* Fever. 6 cases were notified as Puerperal Fever or Septicæmia during the year, and special precautions were adopted, and there was no evidence of the disease being conveyed from one case to another. Only 1 death was registered.

(h) *Erysipelas*. 41 cases notified and 1 death. The disease was mild in type, and some of the cases notified were not, I think, real instances of the disease.

(i) *Whooping Cough* proved fatal to 24 persons, 11 more than in 1919. I gain information of its existence only by indirect methods, and usually only of its fatality from the death certificates. When I hear of it through the Schools I direct a Health Visitor to visit the home and give all practical aid. One Infant School was closed temporarily on account of it.

(j) *Diarrhœa* carried off 14 persons, 8 of them under 1 year of age.

(k) *Pneumonia*. 84 cases were notified (202 in 1919) and there were 29 deaths. In all cases I have the homes visited, and advice and assistance given as to nursing—in some cases providing nursing through the Cavell Home. I am satisfied that notification enables me to proffer assistance which is valued.

(l) *Malaria*. 29 cases (in 1919 there were 111) notified; in all cases the victims were discharged soldiers and the disease had been contracted abroad.

(m) *Dysentery*. 4 cases were notified (12 in 1919), all discharged soldiers. Care was taken to see that the victims were not associated with the preparation or distribution of food.

(n) *Trench Fever*. 1 case only, a discharged soldier.

(o) *Encephalitis Lethargica*. 7 cases notified and 2 deaths registered from this disease. All these cases were fully and separately reported on special forms to the Ministry of Health at the time.

(p) *Anthrax*. 1 case reported. Infection from shaving brush (Japanese). No rabies.

(q) *Septic Diseases* (other than those specified: Septicæmia, Peritonitis, Cellulitis, etc.) occasioned the deaths of 46 persons, 12 fewer than in 1919).

(r) *Malignant Growths* caused the deaths of 135 persons—in 1919 of 168 and in 1918 of 181—Cancer chiefly.

TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.

(i.) *Dispensary.* A temporary dispensary was carried on, under very disadvantageous conditions, at my Offices in the Market Place. By midsummer this year (1921) I hope to have a commodious dispensary open and in working order at Churchman House. I am myself the Administrative and Dr. Theodore Fisher the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer. There are beds (10) reserved for the Local Authority at Kelling Sanatorium for males; a pavilion (10 beds) reserved at the Isolation Hospital for females (the R.M.O. at the Isolation is Dr. Leggat), and 12 boys are received at Clare House Open-air School. The types of case sent to Kelling are, apart from discharged soldiers, early ones; similar female cases probably will be sent when Kelling re-admits them—early and intermediate cases are admitted at the Isolation Hospital—shelters used, and provision can be made for some “Hospital” cases also; early cases at Clare House. Advanced cases commonly go to the Union Infirmary. Surgical cases to Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and Jenny Lind Infirmary.

(ii.) *Co-ordination.* Surgical cases to Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and Jenny Lind Infirmary. Co-ordination easily is effected as the M.O.H. is the Administrative Officer.

(iii.) *Arrangements for Periodical Reports.* The insured persons will be taken over on May 1st, and efforts will be made to obtain reports on patients receiving domiciliary treatment. (It is expected that some of these occasionally will be seen at the Temporary Dispensary also).

(iv.) *The arrangements for following up patients.* It is now, and will be, the duty of the Tuberculosis Officer to see that patients in whom the diagnosis is doubtful are kept under observation.

(v.) *The arrangements for securing examination, etc., of contacts* will be the duty of the Tuberculosis Officer.

(vi.) *Special methods of diagnosis and treatment.* None at present. If any, will be recorded.

(vii.) *Results of Local Experience.* Nothing special to record as yet.

(viii.) *Nature and conduct of Dental Treatment provided by the Council.* No special dental treatment, other than for children, at present.

(ix.) *Arrangements for nursing*—through Cavell Home—and special nourishment as ordered by Tuberculosis Officer.

(x.) *Arrangements for treating non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.* An arrangement has been arrived at to secure treatment of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and the Jenny Lind Infirmary: Surgical appliances doubtless will be supplied (after May 1st) by the Tuberculosis Sub-Committee of the Health Committee; and the Education Authority hopes ultimately to provide residence, education, and treatment for some 36 children.

(xi.) *Arrangements for "care" and "after care" and their working.* These doubtless will be taken into consideration by the Tuberculosis Committee. At present systematic visitation is carried out by Health Visitors.

(xii.) *Particulars as to any local arrangements for finding employment for Tuberculous patients.* None at present.

(xiii.) *Statement as to provision of shelters at homes of patients.* The Insurance Committee has 10 shelters which the Council is prepared to take over: 6 are loaned out at the moment to patients.

(xiv.) *Any special points noted locally, as to incidence of Tuberculosis (e.g., occupation).* 12 per cent. of the notifications of Phthisis, and 20 per cent. of the deaths occurred amongst people engaged in boot work.

(xv.) *Any special methods adopted or proposed for the prevention of Tuberculosis.* No special methods—steady dissemination of sage counsel much relied upon: also general betterment of home surroundings. *I attach more importance to the provision of adequate food than to any other measure.*

(xvi.) *Special difficulties encountered.* The maintenance of a sufficiently high standard in feeding is, I think, the principal difficulty—but I have no reason to suppose that difficulty to be peculiar to Norwich. Of course we have badly ventilated, and sometimes crowded, houses to contend against; often, too, unsuitable employment; some prejudice, and not a little fatalism. East Anglians resist instinctively restriction in any form, and only are moved by appeals to reason—which must be cogent in argument and tactful in form.

The Council's Scheme for the treatment of Tuberculosis already is in possession of, and has been approved by the Ministry. It includes, jointly with the Norfolk County Council and the Council of Great Yarmouth, a Sanatorium and Farm Colony at Stanninghall—where at the end of the year 29 patients were in residence—all of them discharged soldiers, 12 being from Norwich. I am strongly in favour of congregating everything possible at Stanninghall—hospital cases—motors have made distance negligible—tuberculous joints, etc., etc.—there are 700 acres of land—and aggregation of the Tuberculous will make the joint provision of a specialist staff an administrative economy.

I continue the practice I started over 20 years ago of proffering gratuitous disinfection of rooms in which a person has died from Phthisis; and find the proffer readily accepted. In this area I find myself entitled to affirm that a steady diminution in the amount of Tuberculous disease has been and is taking place, *e.g.*, the deaths from all Tuberculous diseases have fallen from 242 in 1900 (with a population of 110,000) to 163 in 1920 (with a population of 125,000). An influence to which I attach importance is the sorting out of tuberculous or tuberculously inclined children and the sending of

them to Open-air Schools; and with the opening of our Dispensary I hope to get this sorting-out process applied to all the relatives of a known case. Under very disadvantageous circumstances, Dr. Fisher has seen 168 new cases of tuberculosis or suspected tuberculosis at my offices, and visited 90 homes since July.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

(a) *Details of the Council's Scheme.* These must be well known to the Ministry having, at every stage, been approved by it; briefly the scheme is a joint one worked in association with the Norfolk C.C., the East Suffolk C.C. and the Council at Great Yarmouth—with Clinics at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

(b) *The extent to which the Scheme hitherto has been developed.* Clinics of one hour each alike for males and females on Tuesday mornings, and Friday evenings at the Out-patient Department of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital—an attendant is provided for irrigation of Gonorrhœa cases every other afternoon at 5 p.m. Cases are taken into the isolation wards as the Medical Officers think desirable. Last year 120 new cases of Gonorrhœa and 75 of Syphilis attended from Norwich. Not an increase.

(c) *The adequacy of the provision made.* Sufficient for the present, so far as Norwich is concerned.

(d) *The lines on which the Scheme needs to be extended, etc.* There appears to be no urgent need for extension at the moment, though the doctors attached to the Clinic would like more commodious quarters.

(e) *Extent to which the co-operation of the medical profession has been obtained.* Co-operation appears to be fairly good with respect of sending specimens for examination, by the pathologist, and of patients with Syphilis. It is not exactly overwhelming.

(f) *The readiness or otherwise of patients to avail themselves of the facilities provided for diagnosis and treatment.* There appears to be a reasonable but not an avid readiness to attend; but not to continue the treatment until the doctors, *not the patients*, are

satisfied that cure is effected; and in my judgment this always will prove a difficulty until Parliament has the courage legislatively to confer power to compel attendance until cure is effected.

Facilities for irrigation by an attendant are provided every evening at 5-0 p.m., and are not largely made use of. The Public Health Department is putting up notices of these and other facilities for treatment in public urinals. So far as I am aware no special facilities have been provided for disinfection. To the best of my belief there are three practitioners in the area who are qualified to receive supplies of salvarsan substitutes. No substitutes, apart from the Clinics, have been supplied. Last year 850 specimens were sent to the Laboratory; 13 for detection of Spirochetes, 449 for Gonococci, and 388 for Wasserman tests (702 out of the 850 were sent in from the Clinics). No action taken in the district under the Venereal Diseases Act, 1917.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Inspector of Midwives inspects midwives' registers, bags, instruments, etc., at regular intervals. We had no occasion to report any midwife to the C.M.B. last year. All newly-born infants whose birth is notified, and on the mothers of whom *a doctor is not in attendance*, are visited during the time the midwife is in charge by the Inspector of Midwives; and, *after the midwife has ceased to attend*, regularly by the Health Visitor for the district, who continues this supervision, where needed, until the child reaches the age of 5 years and passes into the control of the Education Committee. The Health Visitors, in this city, are also the School Nurses, and thus contact is maintained throughout early life. I am satisfied past all questioning that this combination of the duties (of H.V. and S.N.) in one Officer contributes to efficiency as well as to economy in administration. Expectant mothers also are visited. There are no other "Nurses," quâ Nurses (apart from the staff at the Isolation Hospital) in the service of the Corporation; but the services of the Cavell (District) Nurses are utilized as occasion requires for the home nursing of suitable cases. The Corporation

provides at the Maternity Institution three beds, and hopes later largely to develop its indoor accommodation—hopes, indeed, to establish a spacious Maternity Hospital somewhere on the outskirts of the city—and to increase the number of pupils it can train, retaining the present Institution as a residential “Home” for such of its midwives as will be doing district work in the City. The Poor Law Infirmary receives and treats Maternity Cases, and trains pupils. There is some accommodation for unmarried mothers projected in connection with a diocesan society; and valuable assistance is rendered—after parturition mainly—by the Guild for Friendless Girls. Apart from the Union Infirmary, young children are received into the Jenny Lind Infirmary as in-patients. The All Hallows’ Mission Sisters maintain a Day Nursery, toward the cost of which the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee makes a grant. The work of the Maternity Institution has increased, 434 confinements were attended in the patients’ own homes last year as compared with 310 in 1919, 342 by our midwives alone, and 92 where a doctor either already was engaged or was called in. 7 of the infants were still-born, and 3 died during the time our midwives were in attendance. 1 mother died during confinement. 30 patients, commonly complicated cases, were admitted to the ward, and 3 died. The Ante-natal Clinics have continued to be very successful, 252 expectant mothers having attended during the year. *Still-births.*—An investigation into the circumstances of each still-birth reported is made by the Inspector of Midwives; the certified deaths of all infants are recorded, and in doubtful cases specially investigated. Last year 240 died *under 1 year of age*, 104 of them in the first month and 66 within their first week; of the 104 deaths within the first month 51 were attributed to premature birth, 22 to congenital defect, 2 to gastric trouble, 2 to bronchitis, and 3 to congenital syphilis. Special attention is given to illegitimate infants, but the Corporation has no home. The Guardians of the Poor give aid in necessitous cases, and the Voluntary Guild already mentioned. We supply milk to needing mothers, and dried milk to weaned children, and generally our attitude is one of friendly helpfulness. We ask the Guardians to

furnish us with the home address of any unmarried mother who leaves the Infirmary with a newly-born infant to enable us to be in a position to render help if needful. Despite these and other efforts the infantile mortality rate of the illegitimate, though lessening, is still nearly double that of the legitimately born babies.

Co-ordination. The Medical Officer of Health is the Administrative Maternity and Child Welfare Officer, and also Administrative School Medical Officer and Administrative Tuberculosis Officer, and all the Maternity and Child Welfare Work is co-ordinated and directed from his office.

Puerperal Fever, etc. There were 6 cases classified as Puerperal Fever—1 of severe type (death ensued); but the others were comparatively mild—2 very mild, and all recovered; 9 infants died from Measles, 10 from Whooping Cough, 8 from Diarrhœa. There were 31 cases of *Ophthalmia Neonatorum* notified—3 more than in 1919. All these cases were specially reported on by the Inspector of Midwives, and steps taken to see that adequate treatment was obtained, in some instances through nurses from the Cavell Home; but in the majority at the Eye Infirmary; supervision in the homes being carried out by the Health Visitors. In the 31 cases referred to, both eyes were affected in 24 of them; one eye only in 7. In one case blindness (complete) followed, but the others recovered.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

(1) *Staff:* M.O.H.; an Assistant M.O.H., who is R.M.O. at the Isolation Hospital; 2 School Medical Inspectors, who also are Assistant M.O.H.; a Tuberculosis Officer; a School Dental Officer; a Chief Inspector, who also is Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act; a Deputy Chief and 5 Assistant Sanitary Inspectors; an Inspector of Midwives; 7 Health Visitors and School Nurses; 6 Clerks (3 almost entirely for Education work)—and a Superintendent of Scavengers. Districts are assigned to the Assistant Inspectors (3 of whom are fully qualified meat inspectors). They visit premises in search of and in consequence of complaints

of nuisances; report on housing and overcrowding and house drainage; inspect bakeries, slaughter-houses, sanitary accommodation at schools and factories, lodging-houses, etc.; and report on the outbreak of and disinfect premises after infectious diseases.

(2) *Hospital Accommodation.* There are 88 beds—allowing 2000 cubic feet of air space per bed—in the Isolation Hospital, the space for 12 (one pavilion) being taken up for Tuberculous patients. In view of the fact that most of our patients occupy cots, it may be said that apart from Phthisis, we can accommodate 100 cases of infectious disease. (There is a separate Small-pox Hospital at Greenborough Farm with accommodation for 18 to 24 patients, and space available for the erection of tents). 619 patients were admitted to the Isolation Hospital during the year. Advantage of its resources is readily taken, and as an Institution it ranks high in public estimation. The Administrative Officer is the Medical Officer of Health, and there is a Resident Medical Officer, a Matron, a Home and a Night “Sister,” and about two dozen nurses; some score of domestics (including laundry and sewing maids), 3 boilermen, 2 gardeners, 2 porters, and an ambulance driver. The accommodation has proved adequate to the demands made upon it during the year—except in the matter of having cubicles to spare, which has prevented me from taking in some cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum I should have liked to remove; and the efficiency of the hospital would be enhanced if, as I have long advised the Committee, an additional pavilion of glass sided cubicles were erected; these cubicles I find by experience are worth about thrice the number of ordinary beds for the treatment of infectious diseases. We have in prospect the need for providing increased accommodation for Staff, and I recommend the Committee to convert one of the old L.G.B. “model” 12 bedded pavilions into cubicle bedrooms for the purpose, and erect in its place a new Observation Pavilion of 12 or 16 cubicles. Of the cases admitted to this hospital last year 12 were sent in as Enteric Fever, 145 as Scarlet Fever, and 325 Diphtheria; there were 31 who proved to have Tonsillitis. 18

cases of Measles, 4 Rubella, 4 Whooping Cough, 4 of Chicken Pox, 3 Laryngitis, 3 Pneumonia, 3 Broncho-Pneumonia, 3 Erythema, 2 Ulcerative Stomatitis, 1 Cerebro-Spinal Fever, 1 Erysipelas, 1 Puerperal Fever, 1 Mumps, 1 Vincent's Angina, 1 Contagious Impetigo, 1 Bronchitis, 1 Appendicitis, 1 Enteritis, 1 Suppurative Bursitis, 2 Enema rashes, 1 Anthrax, and 5 with no defined disease. (4 babies with their mothers and 1 nurse quarantined.) 38 Phthisical cases also were treated.

(3) *Local Acts: Special Local Orders, and general adoptive Acts in force in the district.*

Local Acts:

1806—An Act for better paving, lighting, cleansing, watching and otherwise improving the City of Norwich.

1825—An Act amending and enlarging the last-mentioned Act.

1867—City of Norwich Act, 1867.

1879—The Norwich Improvement Act, 1879.

1889—Norwich Corporation Act, 1889.

General Adoptive Acts:

Baths and Workhouses Acts, 1846 to 1899.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1907—Parts II., V., VI., VIII. and IX., and certain sections in Parts III., IV. and VII.

Local Orders, Bye-laws and Regulations:

Orders as to Notification of Infectious Diseases—

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Glanders, Anthrax and Hydrophobia in Man. Notification and Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Order under Public Health Acts declaring certain trades to be offensive trades.

Bye-laws—

Common Lodging Houses.

Houses let in Lodgings, &c.

New Streets and Buildings.

Offensive Trades.

Keeping W.C.'s supplied with sufficient water for flushing.

Prevention of Nuisances.

Slaughter-houses.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, and similar structures.

Regulations—

Contagious Diseases of Animals Acts, 1886, and the Dairies,
Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order of 1885.

Underground sleeping rooms.

(4) *Arrangements for chemical and bacteriological work.*

Quantitative and qualitative analyses and also some bacteriological examinations more particularly of milk for tubercle bacilli are conducted by the Public Analyst. Last year 233 samples of foods and drugs (203 of milk) were analysed by him, and 11 samples bacteriologically. Bacteriological examination of sputa for T.B. is conducted in the laboratory at the Isolation Hospital and also the cultivation of bacilli from swabs (Diphtheria) 3972 specimens altogether were examined, these included 51 "Widals" for typhoid, and 317 for Tubercle bacilli, and 3573 for Diphtheria.

OTHER SERVICES.

Every effort has been made by the Public Health Department to maintain cordial relationships and to co-ordinate work with the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Jenny Lind and Eye Infirmaries, National Health Insurance Committee (the Medical Officer of Health has been its advisory Officer) the Poor Law Guardians, and indeed with every society which aims at, or aids in the promotion of the welfare and more particularly the healthiness of the people.

HOUSING.

Broadly, one may say that housing activities have been steadily exerted by the Council despite restricting influence (I speak of

effect not intention) beyond its control. It hoped to procure the erection of 500 houses by the 25th of March this year, and had this hope reached fruition that number would, I think, be found in fact to do no more than meet the housing needs of the mere increase in the population during the past two years; and leave our relative dearth pretty much as before. The Council's scheme, which has been approved by the Ministry of Health, provides for the erection of 1200 new houses, and is, and has been kept strenuously to the fore.

I. *General housing conditions.* The total number of houses in the City is estimated to be near upon 30,000, and of these some 25,000 are used by "the working classes" meaning mainly limb-labouring folk. These houses have been let at rents (pre-war rates) of from 1/6 to 6/6 a week. The new houses erected in accordance with the Ministry of Health requirements can be let at "economic" rentals pretty well doubling the higher grade artisan type of dwelling rents paid prior to the war. 40 new houses were provided for working class people during the year. (2) (a) Shortage remains practically as stated in reports already in possession of the Ministry. (2) (b) Measures taken or contemplated to meet shortage—already stated. (3) No important change in population has taken place during the year nor is any anticipated in the foreseeable future.

II. *Overcrowding* (1) and (2). Out of 4458 houses inspected in 1920, 96 were overcrowded as respects cubic air space per person, and 411 as having more than two persons per bedroom—this latter number being inclusive of the former—or roughly 9 per cent. of the total number inspected. I anticipate that this percentage probably will be increased for the whole 25,000 "working class" dwellings to 10 per cent.; there being a considerable amount of overcrowding in the better type of dwellings, due to married sons or daughters still being unable to obtain houses for themselves. (3) The measures contemplated already have been reported—practically they depend upon the provision of additional dwellings. (4) In 12 cases of overcrowding coming to our notice

formal orders to abate the overcrowding had to be issued; in a number of other instances we were able to procure abatement by verbal instructions.

III. *Fitness of houses.* (a) As stated last year, the general character of the housing in the district is fairly good—in the more modern dwellings quite good. There are, of course, courts and yards with houses of an unsatisfactory type—even limited districts, but compared with other large towns the general character of the housing is as stated—our saving clause being the relative frequency of the provision of small gardens. (b) The general character of the defects found in unfit houses. Commonly age, smallness of rooms, and small number thereof; absence of damp courses; want of through ventilation; want of adequate sunlight; and want of inside water supply. Other defects are conjoint W.C., and no suitably ventilated food store: no baths. (c) There are good, indifferent, and bad property owners just as there are good, indifferent, and bad tenants, and a small minority of the dwellings suffer from bad management and want of supervision by their owners; but far greater numbers of the dwellings under consideration are managed by agents, and some of these are better than others—perhaps it is fairer to say have more funds at their disposal and are allowed greater latitude than others. Many of the owners are wretchedly poor, *e.g.*—widows to whom the rental of a few houses is virtually the sole source of income, and in such cases the agent's life is not a happy one! As the result of considerable experience I have found house agents desirous of keeping the property they are responsible for in reasonably good repair—if only to save themselves trouble—the real deterrent being the poverty or the avariciousness of the owner.

(2) *General action taken* (a) under the Public Health Acts, reparation as far as practicable (b) Housing Acts in 1920 practically no action owing to the deficiency of dwellings, it not being sensible, *me judice*, to close unsatisfactory, unless there be a supply of better dwellings, which supply has been, and still is, non-existent.

(3) *Difficulties in remedying unfitness.* These continue to be oppressive, and not from unwillingness to improve on the part of the decent owners, but from want of trained labour, and also from cost and scarcity of materials, and often lack of funds affect such reparation as is practicable, and in the long run that amounts to a lot; the Health Committee is tolerant to the willing but embarrassed owner who does his best and needs time; it also endeavours not to make too many concurrent requirements, but in apportioning its requirements to prove that it possesses "bowels of compassion." We have no *special* methods of dealing with unfit back-to-back houses, or other types of insanitary property. The Health Committee likes to deal with each case on its merits and doesn't try to cross bridges before it comes to them.

(4) *Conditions* as regards water supply, closet accommodation and refuse disposal. On the 25th March this year the Water Company was supplying 29,909 houses with water: 27,938 houses were furnished with W.C's, *not all separately*: 2659 houses possessed more than one W.C.: the total number of W.C's. in the City being 30,890. Refuse is collected. (See Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report, page 49).

IV. *Unhealthy Areas.* No area has been "represented" during 1920, and no formal complaint has been made.

V. *Bye-Laws relating to houses let in lodgings, and to tents, sheds, etc.* (1) and (2). The carrying out is regularly reported on, and care is taken to see that the bye-laws are observed. Owing to want of accommodation prices are given for lodgings which carry numbers of premises outside the scope of our present bye-laws, and one condition being abnormal, and possibly temporary in its duration, we have not deemed it necessary to apply for new ones as yet.

VI. *General and Miscellaneous.* No dilapidated dwellings were purchased and pulled down to effect improvements in 1920.

APPENDICES.

HOUSING CONDITIONS :

(1) *General.*

- (1) Estimated population, 125,700.
- (2) General death-rate, 12·5.
- (3) Death-rate from tuberculosis (*all* forms of), 1·3.
Pulmonary only 1·0.
- (4) Infantile mortality, 74 per 1000 births.
- (5) Number of dwelling-houses of all classes, 30,000.
- (6) Number of working class dwelling-houses, 25,000.
- (7) Number of new working-class houses erected, 40.

(2) *Unfit Dwelling-houses.*(I.) *Inspection.*

- (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts), 4458.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, 1715.
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation, 5.
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, 3195.

(II.) *Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers, 2058.

(III.) *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A. *Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.* Nil.

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied, 361.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—(a) by owners, 261; (b) by Local Authority in default of owners, 9.

C. *Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.* Nil.

(3) *Unhealthy Areas.* None represented.

(IV.) *The number of houses not complying with the building byelaws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.* None.

(V.) *Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer.* Practically the whole Department directly or indirectly, but no *special* “housing” officers.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Disease.			1920.		1919.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	162	+	130
Diphtheria	...	...	348	+	337
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	1	—	7
Puerperal Fever	...	...	6	+	1
Measles	...	...	191	—	228
Enteric Fever	...	...	22	+	18
Paratyphoid	...	...	2	*	1
Ophth. Neonatorum	...	...	31	+	28
Malaria	...	...	29	—	111
Dysentery	...	...	4	—	12
Pneumonia	...	...	84	—	202
Trench Fever	...	...	1	—	2
Enceph. Lethargica	...	...	7	+	2
Polio Encephalitis	...	...	1		—
Erysipelas	...	...	41	—	43
Anthrax	...	..	2	x	—
			<hr/> 932		<hr/> 1122

* Paratyphoid—One a nurse in N. & N. Hospital.
 „ a County Case.

x Anthrax—One a County Case in N. & N. Hospital.

Extract from Vol. VI. Census of England and Wales.

	1911.														BUILDINGS NOT USED AS DWELLINGS.		
	1901.	BUILDINGS USED AS DWELLINGS.													Separate Flats (included in Col. 5).	Kind of Building.	No.
		Total. Cols. 4-11.	Ordinary Dwelling Houses.	Blocks of Flats.	Shops.	Hotels, Inns, or Public Houses.	Offices, Warehouses, Workshops, Factories.	Institutions.	Others.	Vessels, Sheds, Vagrants, &c.							
Cols. 1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.				
Norwich, City of, C.B.														Places of Worship ...	101		
Numbers inhabited...	25,652	27,824	25,815	25	1,370	464	62	57	31	—	58	Government and Municipal Buildings	10				
Separate occupiers...	26,048	28,234	26,143	58	1,386	469	62	62	33	21	58	Shops ...	790				
Population ...	113,922	121,478	109,013	168	6,000	2,199	220	3,704	134	40	168	Offices ...	152				
Uninhabited ...	1,870	1,566	1,353	—	174	11	23	3	2	—	15	Warehouses, Work-shops, Factories ...	595				
Being built ...	225	82	81	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	Theatres & other places of amusement ...	7				

REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,
NORWICH, 1921.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

DEAR SIR,

The following is a synopsis of the principal work carried out during the year ending December 31st, 1920.

In order that comparisons and references may be easily made, I have so far as possible followed up the form of report adopted last year.

6,347 Nuisances detected.

602 Notices served by order of the Health Committee.

2,239 Preliminary Notices served.

6,336 Premises re-inspected.

3,514 Nuisances have been abated.

3,845 Special complaints have been received and the premises inspected.

1,085 Letters sent in order to obtain the abatement of nuisances, &c.

230 References to the City Engineer.

225 References to the Water Works Company.

52 References to the Rats Officer.

The following are the principal matters that have been dealt with :—

45	Orders	served	to	provide	efficient	closets.
200	„	„	„	repair	defectively	paved yards.
224	„	„	„	„	or	disconnect rain water pipes.
383	„	„	„	cleanse	and	unstop yard drains.
813	„	„	„	provide	efficient	privy pans and dust receptacles.
84	„	„	„	efficiently	trap	yard drains with gullies.
411	„	„	„	repair	defective	water closets.
40	„	„	„	cleanse	dirty	houses.
99	„	„	„	remove	and	cease to keep animals.
2030	„	„	„	repair	defective	house roofs, floors, walls, &c.
107	„	„	„	remove	foul	accumulations.
12	„	„	„	abate	overcrowding.	
365	„	„	„	repair	defective	eaves gutters.
122	„	„	„	repair	or	disconnect sink waste pipes.
26	„	„	„	provide	premises	with a proper supply of water.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

654 visits have been paid to infected premises.

869 rooms have been disinfected upon the removal or recovery of the patient.

Liquid and powder carbolic disinfectants have, as in former years, been given to householders gratuitously in all cases of infectious disease, and for disinfecting purposes generally.

HOUSE TO HOUSE INSPECTION.

RE-VISITS AND SPECIAL INQUIRIES.

16,101 houses and premises have been visited.

YARD AND COURT INSPECTION.

2565 visits have been paid to Yards and Courts.

The privies and yards found dirty were cleansed at the request of the Inspectors. Other sanitary defects found are dealt with under term "Nuisances" in a preceding column.

WATER ANALYSIS.

Two samples of water have been taken from wells.

One sample was certified "Passable," and the other sample certified to be "Unfit for drinking purposes."

In the case where the sample was certified to be "unfit" the premises have been provided with the Waterworks Company's water.

MEETINGS OF OWNERS.

417 Meetings of owners have been held.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

149 Smoke observations have been taken.

It has been found necessary to caution several manufacturers and firemen, and recommend the use of a better class of coal and the exercise of greater care in firing.

SHOPS ACT, 1912-13.

21 inspections have been made to see that the requirements of the above Act were carried out.

PIGGERIES.

84 visits have been paid to Piggeries, many of which have been cleansed at the request of the Inspectors.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Total number of workshops in the City	...	511
Number of new workshops inspected	...	21
Total number of factories in the City	...	478
Number of out-workers premises visited by the Male Inspectors	... ..	110

The undermentioned are the insanitary conditions that have been dealt with at the above class of premises :—

7 Workshops and workrooms have been cleansed and limewashed.

18 Water closets provided.

12 „ „ defective.

10 „ „ foul.

5 Drains choked.

4 Floors dirty.

3 Ventilator hoods fixed to gas stoves.

1 Soil pipe defective.

1 Case of overcrowding.

1 Flock-tearing machine efficiently screened from workroom.

In 4 cases the W.C. accommodation was efficiently screened from the workroom.

In 5 cases separate sanitary accommodation was provided.

MARKETS.

The Fishmarket has been visited and inspected daily, and the Vegetable, Fruit, and the Provision Markets on Market Days.

The Inspectors on duty every Saturday evening for the purpose of inspecting the meat, poultry, fish, etc., exposed for sale in the provision market and for examining articles of food exposed for sale in the poorer parts of the City, have on several occasions found it necessary to deal with various articles of food which were in a condition unfit for the food of man, and such articles have been included in the undermentioned list of unsound food.

UNSOUND FOOD.

All meat found diseased and unfit for food is destroyed, the same being taken to and put into a digester.

The following have been destroyed as being unfit for human food, with the consent of the Owners :—

328 Carcases of Mutton, 135 Carcases of Lamb, 61 Carcases of Beef, 2 Carcases of Calves, 2 Carcases of Pork, 34 Crops of Beef, 31 Forequarters of Beef, 3 Hindquarters of Beef, 3 Hindquarters of Mutton, 1 Hindquarter of a Goat, 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 st. 4 lbs. Beef, 6 cwt. 2 qrs. 9 lbs. of Mutton, 2 cwt. 13 lbs. of Lamb, 77 Ox Livers, 15 pairs of Ox Lungs, 12 Ox Tongues, 7 Ox Heads, 4 pairs of Ox Kidneys, 1 Ox Heart, 13 Sheeps' Livers, 6 Sheeps' Plucks, 1 Sheep's Tongue, 146 sets of Sheeps' Offal, 50 sets of Lambs' Offal, 17 sets of Cattle Offal, 3 sets of Calves' Offal, 6 lbs. of Ox Liver, 4 lbs. of Ox Lights, 3 qrs. 8 lbs. of Trimmings, 3 Pigs' Heads, 3 Skirts, 3 Tripes, 1 lb. of Fat, 28 Rabbits, 23 Picnic Hams, 4 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 st. 13 lbs. of Bacon, 125 tins of Corned Beef, 14 bags of Cockles, 14 boxes Bloaters, 11 bags of Winkles, 8 boxes of Kippers, 5 boxes and 9 barrels of Herrings, 1 basket 3 bags and 6 pecks of Shrimps, 67 boxes of Fillets, 3 cases of Fish, 2 boxes of Roes, 71 tins of Salmon, 62 tins of Crayfish, 9 tins of Crab, 196 tins of Condensed Milk, 22 tins of Tomatoes, 14 tins of Pineapple, 4 tins of Sardines, 2 tins of Cherries, 1 tin of Apricot, 1 tin of Peas, 1 tin of Lobster, 5 tins and 3 jars of Ox Cheek, 3 pots of Salmon and Shrimp, 2 pots of Turkey and Tomato, 2 jars of Potted Meat, 2 qrs. 9 lbs. of Cheese, 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 st. of Potatoes, 6 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. and 1 box of Dates, 6 cwt. 2 qrs. 1 st. $8\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of Apples, 1 box of Apple Rings, $4\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. of Bullaces, 10 lbs. of Sausages, and 4 cwts. 4 lbs. $10\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. of Butter.

CARCASES AND PARTS OF CARCASES CONDEMNED FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

The following is a list of Carcases and parts of Carcases which are included in the above list which have been condemned for Tuberculosis:—

16 Carcases of Beef, 9 Forequarters of Beef, 6 Pairs of Ox Lungs, 3 Ox Livers, 1 Ox Head, 1 Ox Tongue, 1 Ox Heart, 14 stone of Beef, 14 lbs. of Trimmings, $1\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Pigs' Plucks, 7 sets of Ox Offal, and 1 Tripe.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE SALE OF FOODS AND DRUGS ACTS.

During the year 233 samples of Food and Drugs have been submitted for analysis:—

Description of Samples.	Number of Samples.	Result of Analysis.	
		Genuine.	Adulterated.
Milk	203	176	27
Camphorated Oil	4	4	—
Preserved Cream	3	3	—
Ice Cream	3	3	—
Malt Vinegar	3	3	—
Baking Powder	3	3	—
Eucalyptus Oil	2	2	—
Ground Ginger	2	2	—
Self-Rising Flour	2	2	—
Butter	2	2	—
Cream	1	—	1
Cake Flour	1	1	—
Epsom Salts	1	1	—
Cheese Cake Mixture	1	1	—
Sponge Cake Flour	1	1	—
Honey	1	1	—
	233	205	28

11 of the above samples were bacteriologically analysed, and 6 samples of milk were taken on Sundays.

In 7 cases proceedings were taken against vendors of adulterated milk.

In 6 cases the Magistrates convicted and imposed fines varying from 5/- to £2 10s.

1 case of milk was dismissed.

2 cases of milk were withdrawn.

In 18 cases of milk and 1 case of cream the vendors were written to and cautioned.

Particulars of the prosecutions against vendors of adulterated milk are given below :—

No.	Date.	Adulteration.	Article.	Fine.
13	1920. Mar. 1st	6 per cent. added water & 6·38 „ fat deficient...	Milk	£1
23	„ „	10·5 „ added water...	„	£2 10s. 0d.
152	Oct. 26th	11·5 „ „ „ and 20·5 „ fat deficient	„	£2
169	„ „	9·5 „ added water	„	£1 10s. 0d.
222	Dec. 31st	9·0 „ fat deficient	„	Dismissed
234	1921. Jan. 25th	12·0 „ „ „	„	£1
231	Feb. 22nd	7·25 „ added water	„	5/- & 2/- costs

The following prosecutions were also taken :—

Date.	Particulars.	Fine.
1920. Mar. 3rd	For selling wild rabbits without exhibiting an “easily readable notice showing in plain words and figures the maximum price for wild rabbits” ...	2/6
„ „	For selling a rabbit at a price exceeding the maximum ...	2/6
April 20th	For unlawfully slaughtering a calf ...	Dismissed on payment of costs
May 20th	For refusing to sell milk ...	10/-
„ 26th	„ „ „ ...	Dismissed
June 25th	For contravening the Early Closing of Shops Act ...	5/-
July 19th	For obstructing one of the Assistant Inspectors ...	Dismissed
Aug. 24th	For failing to have name and address conspicuously inscribed on can from which milk was being sold in the street ...	10/-
Sept. 28th	For having failed to comply with a Notice to abate a Nuisance ...	£1 18s. 6d. costs
Oct. 26th	For refusing to sell milk ...	£2 and 5/- costs

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE RAG FLOCK ACT.

9 samples have been taken under the above Act, and 7 samples were certified genuine.

2 samples were certified to contain soluble chlorine in the form of chlorides, 203.75 parts per 100,000, and 340 parts per 100,000.

Proceedings were taken and a fine of 10/- and £1 6s. costs was imposed in the first case, and the other case was dismissed.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Fish Fryers	...	...	...	45
Dealers in Rags, Skins and Bones	...	...	...	17
Tripe Boilers	...	...	...	3
Fellmongers	...	...	...	3
Fat Melters	..	...	...	2
Waterproofing	...	...	...	1
Manufacture of Manure from Fish Offal				1
Skin Merchant	...	...	...	1
				<hr/>
				73
				<hr/>

During the year 843 inspections of these premises have been made.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

193 visits have been paid to houses let in lodgings, and many rooms were limewashed at the request of the Inspectors.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

The 3 Common Lodging-Houses have been visited weekly, and found to be conducted in a fairly satisfactory manner.

BAKEHOUSES.

Number of Bakehouses on Register	...	122
Visits paid to Bakehouses	...	282

Cleansing and limewashing has been carried out during the months of April and October, and the premises have been found to be kept in a fairly satisfactory condition.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

	In 1914.	In January, 1920.	In December, 1920.
Registered ...	19	13	13
Licensed ...	20	21	18
	—	—	—
Total	39	34	31

All these Slaughter-Houses are visited on Killing days, and practically all animals slaughtered and intended for the food of men are inspected before leaving the Slaughter-House.

2,145 visits have been paid to Slaughter-Houses.

It was found necessary to caution several occupiers of Slaughter-Houses respecting the dirty condition of the walls and floors, and the non-removal of refuse in accordance with the Slaughter-House Bye-laws.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Dairies—

Number on Register	33
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Cowsheds—

Number on Register	33
Number of Cows	407

Milkshops—

Number on Register	151
Number of applications for registration	...	...	21
Number of milkshops closed	...	...	11

Whilst most milksellers keep their shops and utensils scrupulously clean, it is difficult to make many milk retailers appreciate the necessity for keeping their milk covered, so as to exclude dust, etc., and not to keep it in close proximity to other articles likely to contaminate it.

Generally speaking, the wholesomeness of the milk produced within and the milk imported into the district is satisfactory.

The distribution is in the hands of the retailers and appears to be satisfactory.

Several of the retailers make two deliveries daily.

CARAVANS.

172 Inspections of Caravans have been made.

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912 & 1917.

Four samples were submitted for analysis under the above Regulations.

	Samples taken.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Cream ...	1	0	1
Preserved Cream	3	3	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	4	3	1

The Vendor of the sample of Cream was communicated with and asked for an explanation on the presence of the Preservative. The explanation received was considered satisfactory.

Periodical visits have been paid to Hotels, Restaurants, etc., to see that the requirements of these Regulations were carried out.

MARGARINE ACT.

158 Inspections have been made of premises to see if Margarine was sold, and where such was the case, to see that the requirements of the Margarine Act were carried out.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, &c.

A circular letter, dated the 25th August, 1920, was received from the Ministry of Health requesting periodical inspection of Theatres, Music Halls, and other places of amusement.

During the last quarter of the year 11 inspections were made, and a register was prepared. On the whole the conditions were found to be satisfactory, and the minor defects found were readily amended.

SCAVENGING.

During the year 1230 loads of Privy Bin Refuse were removed by the Night Waggon, and 28,861 loads of House Refuse by the Dust Waggon in the day time.

20,359 loads of refuse were removed by the Wherry at the Fishergate Dépôt.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are 610 Privy Pans, 194 Privy Bins, and 30,802 Water Closets in the City.

The following Privy Bins and Privy Pans have been converted into Water Closets during the last six years:—

		Privy Bins.		Privy Pans.
1915	...	71	...	208
1916	...	7	...	12
1917	...	2	...	0
1918	...	0	...	0
1919	...	24	...	8
1920	...	66	...	29

From 1914 to the end of 1920, 10 movable ash-bins with proper covering were substituted for fixed receptacles.

In the case of privy conversions the small space at the rear of the privy is filled up 3 ins. above floor level, bottom and sides cemented and suitable door provided. These spaces are used for storing refuse and are emptied weekly.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours obediently,

JOSEPH BROOKS, M.S.I.A.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

